How We Built This Report — and How You Can Make One for Your Country

A free method from The Receipts & The Reality Project · companion to "The World Is Worth Rebuilding." Built with Claude. The goal: anyone, anywhere, can produce an accurate, sourced picture of their own country's energy transition — the true cost of staying on fossil fuels versus the cost, payoff and politics of switching.

The method, start to finish

- 1. Set the scope. One country, one question: what does fossil fuel cost us now, what does the switch cost, what do we save, how fast — and what's blocking it?
- 2. Gather the figures by category (see the checklist) — searching current, authoritative sources, not memory.
- 3. Verify everything. Cross-check each number against a primary/official source; compare records, money and targets; label every estimate or projection.
- 4. Analyse it together. Don't list facts — reconcile them: cost of staying vs cost of building vs savings, on one timeline, so the trade-off ("rent forever vs buy & own") is clear.
- 5. Structure it into plain-English sections with summary tables. The full flow: where we are; cost of staying; cost of building; savings over time; the whole picture; balancing the books to payback; going faster; cost/benefit; speed vs target; where the money comes from; build capacity & bottlenecks; what we use gas & oil for; transitioning your home; the heat-pump funding gap; what people personally control; tradeoffs & 'austerity'; the bottom line; a delivery scorecard (are they keeping promises?); the finance gap; why the private money stalls; and solutions & proposals.
- 6. Build the PDF — a clean, sourced, shareable document with a full reference list and a "not financial advice" note.

The data checklist (fill these in for your country)

- 1 · Where you are — electricity mix by source; % renewable vs fossil vs nuclear.
- 2 · Your fossil supply — home-produced vs imported; who you buy from; your annual energy import bill.
- 3 · Cost of staying — crisis/excess fuel spend; money leaving the country each year; decommissioning owed anyway.
- 4 · Cost of building clean — investment per year to your targets; cost per unit of wind/solar vs gas (incl. backup/grid).
- 5 · Savings over time — net cost after fuel savings; when it turns net-positive; bill path; return per unit invested; the long-run surplus.
- 6 · Where the money comes from — private vs public share; pensions/funds; how to make it fair (social tariff, local ownership).
- 7 · The finance gap — investment needed per year vs what's actually committed; and compare it to what you already spend on fossil-fuel subsidies (in the UK: ~£17.5bn/yr of subsidies against a ~£19bn/yr clean-power gap).
- 8 · Why the private money stalls — grid-connection waits and queue size; whether clean-energy auctions are pricing projects in or out; how little of national pension capital actually goes into infrastructure.
- 9 · Personal impact — the 3 pillars people control (home energy, transport, food ≈ half of energy); compare a green vs fossil household's carbon AND cost; flag the pension as the biggest lever.
- 10 · Solutions & proposals — how to close the gap: redirect fossil subsidies, a ring-fenced windfall levy, fully-funded annual quotas, pay-as-you-save loans, and unlocking pension capital. Plus the tradeoffs and a just transition for fossil-fuel workers.

Sourcing principles (what keeps it accurate)

- Use official statistics (your energy/statistics department), the IEA, your national climate advisory body, and respected independent analysts.
- Numbers, not adjectives — every claim anchored to a figure, a date, or a "said vs did". If it can't be verified, leave it out.
- Label estimates and projections, give ranges, and cite everything. State clearly it's information for public debate, not financial advice.

Use this prompt with Claude (fill in your country)

"Help me build a fully-sourced financial report on [COUNTRY]'s energy transition, like 'The Receipts'. Research and verify CURRENT figures for: (1) our electricity mix, % renewable vs fossil; (2) where we get our fossil fuels and how much we spend importing energy each year; (3) what staying on fossil fuels costs us (crisis spend, import outflow, decommissioning); (4) the cost to build clean power and reach net zero, plus cost per unit of wind/solar vs gas including backup; (5) how much we save over time, when it turns net-positive, and the long-run surplus; (6) where the investment money comes from and how to make it fair; (7) the finance gap — investment needed per year vs committed, set against what we already spend on fossil-fuel subsidies; (8) why private investment stalls — grid-connection queues, auction price signals, and how little pension capital goes into infrastructure; (9) the 3 things people personally control — home energy, transport, food — with a green-vs-fossil household comparison of carbon AND cost, and which lever (e.g. pensions) matters most; (10) the solutions to close the gap, plus tradeoffs and a just transition. Use government statistics, the IEA, our national climate body and independent analysts.

Cite every figure, label estimates, analyse the costs together, and build it into a clear PDF with summary tables. Not financial advice.”

Then read it, find the holes, and tighten it — a report is only as strong as its sources. Share it freely so your country can see the real picture too.

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